

## Attorney General

### Elected Official Budget Requests for the 2009 Biennium

January 29, 2007

- 1) Progression-to-market (law enforcement personnel) - The Department requests \$422,772 (\$361,637 General Fund ) for the biennium to implement a progression-to-market pay raise for all division law enforcement personnel. The Division of Criminal Investigation law enforcement personnel are hired as well-experienced investigators. Implementation of this progression-to-market pay structure will allow these state-level investigators to earn a salary comparable to that of local and state law enforcement personnel in the region.
- 2) Progression-to-market (Forensic Scientist) - Staff turnover and the lack of competitive salaries have contributed to a serious backlog in state forensic services, delayed prosecutions, and increased state costs. It is in the state's best interest to increase salaries so that the Department of Justice may recruit and retain qualified and skilled staff in forensic sciences. Requesting \$150,000 per fiscal year, general fund. (This amount is requested in HB12 as a recommendation of the Law & Justice Interim Committee.)
- 3) Remove Vacancy Savings from the Forensic Science Division - This request is a companion to number 2 to give the FSD more fiscal flexibility for recruitment and retention of Forensic Scientist. (General Fund: FY08 -\$93,548: FY09 - \$94,162)
- 4) New Building Rent – During the 2007 biennium, it became necessary for the Division of Criminal Investigation to find new adequate office space to meet space and security needs. The new office will allow all division staff to be located in one location, providing for more efficient, effective, and secure working conditions. The Department requests an additional \$171,500 general fund in fiscal 08 and \$178,500 general fund in fiscal 09 for rental costs of a new building.
- 5) Supervisor Eastern Montana Drug Task Force – The Division of Criminal Investigation requests \$140,790 for the biennium to continue funding of a supervisor in the division's Miles City Narcotics office – Eastern Montana Drug Task Force. These funds were approved by the 2005 legislature with One-Time-Only (OTO) funds. Permanent funding is requested.
- 6) Crime Analyst - The Division of Criminal Investigation requests \$78,035 of general fund in fiscal 08 and \$74,210 in fiscal 2009 for 1.0 FTE crime analysts for Montana's All Threat Intelligence Center. This position will support increasing demands for intelligence and analytical support services requested by local, state and federal agencies in areas such as homeland security (international and domestic terrorism), drug trafficking, organized crime, non-compliant and serial sex offenders as well as other crimes impacting Montana. The analyst will conduct research on behalf of law enforcement agencies, analyze crime data and prepare threat/situational reports on crime issues impacting the state.

*10 counties  
12 agencies*

7) Forensic Rape Examination Payment Program - This program, created by the 2005 Legislature, pays for rape exams for victims who choose not to prosecute the perpetrator. Each rape exam costs a maximum of \$600 under this program. Any appropriation also must cover mailing, training & outdated kit destruction costs. The Office of Victim Services expects to have approximately \$35,000 left of our current biennium appropriation. Our request is to keep that amount plus a 30% carry over for a total of approximately \$45,000.